

# Monte Carlo in different ensembles

## Daan Frenkel

# Different Ensembles

Ensemble	Name	Constant (Imposed)	Fluctuating (Measured)
NVT	Canonical	N,V,T	P
NPT	Isobaric-isothermal	N,P,T	V
$\mu$ VT	Grand-canonical	$\mu$ ,V,T	N

# Statistical Thermodynamics

Partition function

$$Q_{NVT} = \frac{1}{\Lambda^{3N} N!} \int dr^N \exp[-\beta U(r^N)].$$

Ensemble average

$$\langle A \rangle_{NVT} = \frac{1}{Q_{NVT}} \frac{1}{\Lambda^{3N} N!} \int dr^N A(r^N) \exp[-\beta U(r^N)].$$

**I will come back to this**

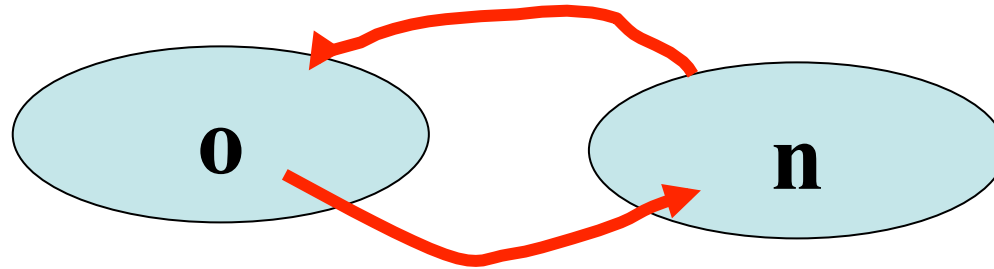
Probability to find a particular configuration

$$N(r^N) = \frac{1}{Q_{NVT}} \frac{1}{\Lambda^{3N} N!} \int dr'^N \delta(r'^N - r^N) \exp[-\beta U(r'^N)] \propto \exp[-\beta U(r^N)]$$

Free energy

$$\beta F = -\ln(Q_{NVT})$$

# Detailed balance



$$K(o \rightarrow n) = K(n \rightarrow o)$$

$$K(o \rightarrow n) = N(o) \times \alpha(o \rightarrow n) \times \text{acc}(o \rightarrow n)$$

$$K(n \rightarrow o) = N(n) \times \alpha(n \rightarrow o) \times \text{acc}(n \rightarrow o)$$

$$\frac{\text{acc}(o \rightarrow n)}{\text{acc}(n \rightarrow o)} = \frac{N(n) \times \alpha(n \rightarrow o)}{N(o) \times \alpha(o \rightarrow n)} = \frac{N(n)}{N(o)}$$

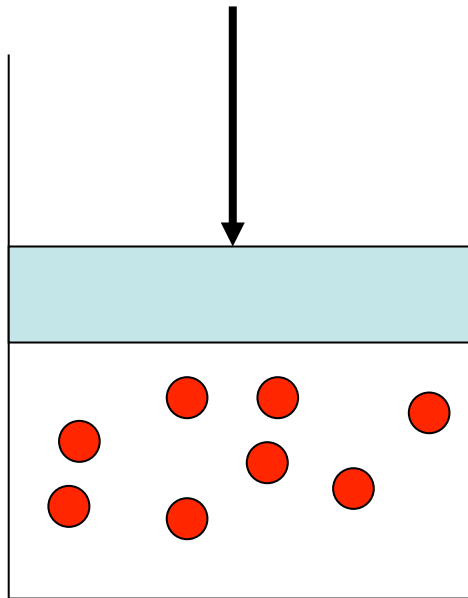
# *NVT*-ensemble

$$N(n) \propto \exp \left[ -\beta U(n) \right]$$

$$\frac{\text{acc}(o \rightarrow n)}{\text{acc}(n \rightarrow o)} = \frac{N(n)}{N(o)}$$

$$\frac{\text{acc}(o \rightarrow n)}{\text{acc}(n \rightarrow o)} = \exp \left[ -\beta \left[ U(n) - U(o) \right] \right]$$

# NPT ensemble



- We control the
- Temperature ( $T$ )
  - Pressure ( $P$ )
  - Number of particles ( $N$ )

# Scaled coordinates

Partition function

$$Q_{NVT} = \frac{1}{\Lambda^{3N} N!} \int d\mathbf{r}^N \exp[-\beta U(\mathbf{r}^N)].$$

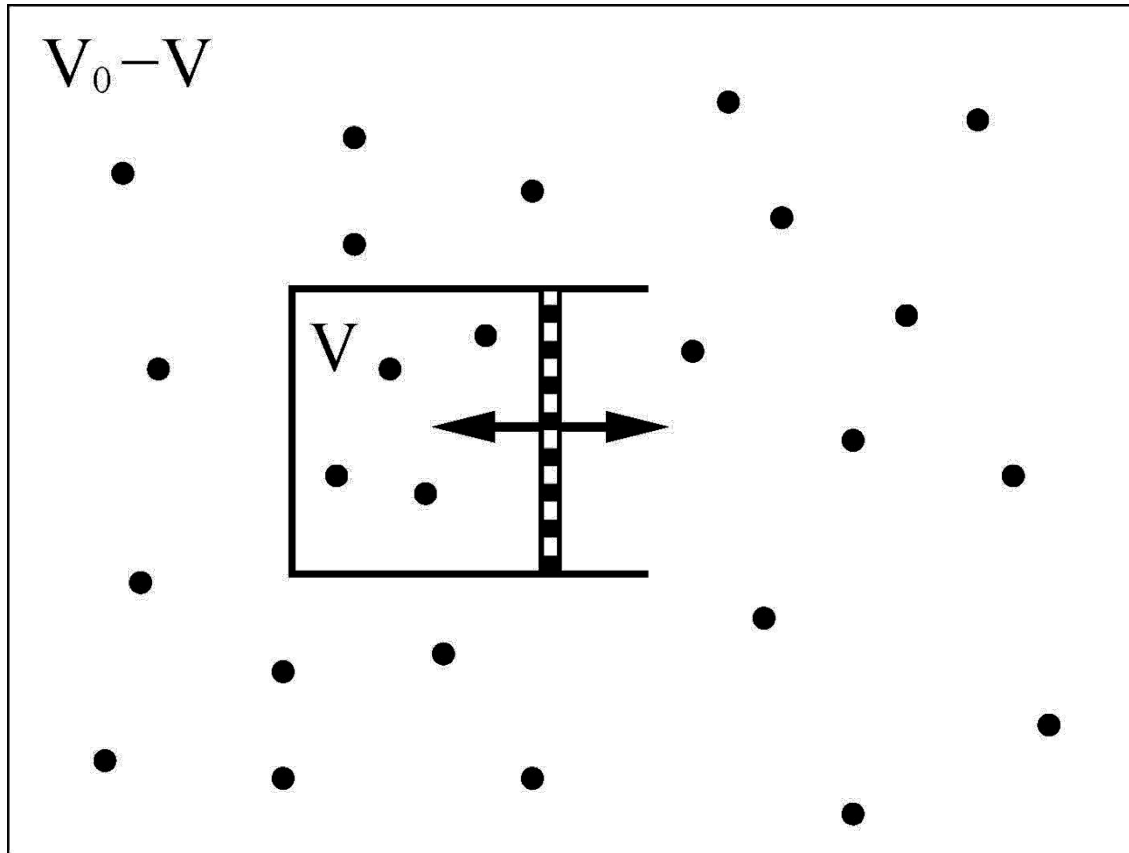
Scaled coordinates

$$\mathbf{s}_i = \mathbf{r}_i / L$$

This gives for the partition function

$$\begin{aligned} Q_{NVT} &= \frac{L^{3N}}{\Lambda^{3N} N!} \int d\mathbf{s}^N \exp[-\beta U(\mathbf{s}^N; L)] \\ &= \frac{V^N}{\Lambda^{3N} N!} \int d\mathbf{s}^N \exp[-\beta U(\mathbf{s}^N; L)] \end{aligned}$$

The energy depends on the real coordinates

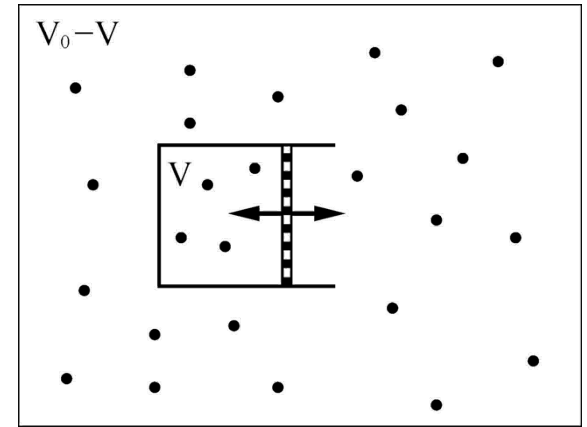


N in volume V

M in volume  $V_0 - V$



$$Q_{NVT} = \frac{V^N}{\Lambda^{3N} N!} \int ds^N \exp \left[ -\beta U(s^N; L) \right]$$



$$Q_{MV_0, NV, T} = \frac{(V_0 - V)^{M-N}}{\Lambda^{3(M-N)} (M-N)!} \int ds^{M-N} \exp \left[ -\beta U_0(s^{M-N}; L) \right] \frac{V^N}{\Lambda^{3N} N!} \\ \times \int ds^N \exp \left[ -\beta U(s^N; L) \right]$$

$$Q_{MV_0, NV, T} = \frac{(V_0 - V)^{M-N}}{\Lambda^{3(M-N)} (M-N)!} \frac{V^N}{\Lambda^{3N} N!} \int ds^N \exp[-\beta U(s^N; L)]$$

To get the Partition Function of this system, we have to integrate over all possible volumes:

$$Q_{MV_0, N, T} = \int dV \frac{(V_0 - V)^{M-N}}{\Lambda^{3(M-N)} (M-N)!} \frac{V^N}{\Lambda^{3N} N!} \int ds^N \exp[-\beta U(s^N; L)]$$

Now let us take the following limits:

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} M \rightarrow \infty \\ V_0 \rightarrow \infty \end{array} \right\} \rho = \frac{M}{V} \rightarrow \text{constant}$$

As the particles in the reservoir are an ideal gas, we have:

$$\rho = \beta P$$

$$Q_{MV_0, N, T} = \int dV \frac{(V_0 - V)^{M-N}}{\Lambda^{3(M-N)} (M-N)!} \frac{V^N}{\Lambda^{3N} N!} \int ds^N \exp[-\beta U(s^N; L)]$$

We have

$$(V_0 - V)^{M-N} = V_0^{M-N} (1 - V/V_0)^{M-N} \approx V_0^{M-N} \exp[-(M-N)V/V_0]$$

$$(V_0 - V)^{M-N} \approx V_0^{M-N} \exp[-\rho V] = V_0^{M-N} \exp[-\beta P V]$$

This gives:

$$Q_{NPT} = \frac{\beta P}{N! \Lambda^{3N}} \int dV \exp[-\beta P V] V^N \int ds^N \exp[-\beta U(s^N; L)]$$

# NPT Ensemble

Partition function:

$$Q_{NPT} = \frac{\beta P}{N! \Lambda^{3N}} \int dV \exp[-\beta P V] V^N \int ds^N \exp[-\beta U(s^N; L)]$$

Probability to find a particular configuration:

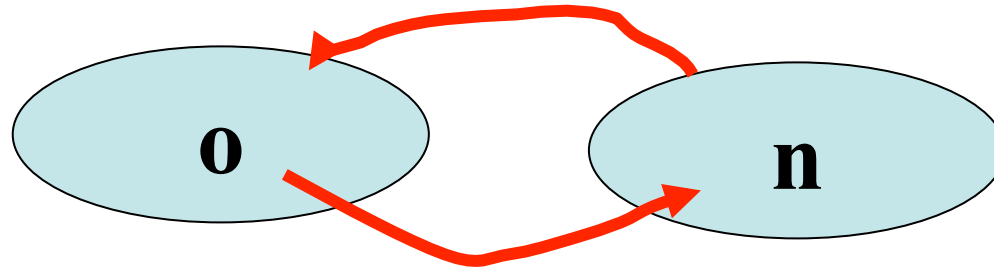
$$N_{NPT}(V, \mathbf{s}^N) \propto V^N \exp[-\beta P V] \exp[-\beta U(\mathbf{s}^N; L)]$$

Sample a particular configuration:

- change of volume
- change of reduced coordinates

Acceptance rules ??

# Detailed balance



$$K(o \rightarrow n) = K(n \rightarrow o)$$

$$K(o \rightarrow n) = N(o) \times \alpha(o \rightarrow n) \times \text{acc}(o \rightarrow n)$$

$$K(n \rightarrow o) = N(n) \times \alpha(n \rightarrow o) \times \text{acc}(n \rightarrow o)$$

$$\frac{\text{acc}(o \rightarrow n)}{\text{acc}(n \rightarrow o)} = \frac{N(n) \times \alpha(n \rightarrow o)}{N(o) \times \alpha(o \rightarrow n)} = \frac{N(n)}{N(o)}$$

# *NPT*-ensemble

$$N_{NPT} (V, \mathbf{s}^N) \propto V^N \exp[-\beta PV] \exp[-\beta U(\mathbf{s}^N; L)]$$

$$\frac{\text{acc}(o \rightarrow n)}{\text{acc}(n \rightarrow o)} = \frac{N(n)}{N(o)}$$

Suppose we change the position of a randomly selected particle

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\text{acc}(o \rightarrow n)}{\text{acc}(n \rightarrow o)} &= \frac{V^N \cancel{\exp[-\beta PV]} \exp[-\beta U(\mathbf{s}_n^N; L)]}{V^N \cancel{\exp[-\beta PV]} \exp[-\beta U(\mathbf{s}_o^N; L)]} \\ &= \frac{\exp[-\beta U(\mathbf{s}_n^N; L)]}{\exp[-\beta U(\mathbf{s}_o^N; L)]} = \exp \left\{ -\beta [U(n) - U(o)] \right\} \end{aligned}$$

# *NPT*-ensemble

$$N_{NPT} (V, \mathbf{s}^N) \propto V^N \exp[-\beta P V] \exp[-\beta U(\mathbf{s}^N; L)]$$

$$\frac{\text{acc}(o \rightarrow n)}{\text{acc}(n \rightarrow o)} = \frac{N(n)}{N(o)}$$

Suppose we change the *volume* of the system

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\text{acc}(o \rightarrow n)}{\text{acc}(n \rightarrow o)} &= \frac{V_n^N \exp[-\beta P V_n] \exp[-\beta U(\mathbf{s}^N; L_n)]}{V_o^N \exp[-\beta P V_o] \exp[-\beta U(\mathbf{s}^N; L_o)]} \\ &= \left( \frac{V_n}{V_o} \right)^N \exp[-\beta P (V_n - V_o)] \exp \left\{ -\beta [U(n) - U(o)] \right\} \end{aligned}$$

# Algorithm: NPT

- Randomly change the position of a particle
- Randomly change the volume



## Algorithm 10 (Basic NPT-Ensemble Simulation)

PROGRAM mc_npt	basic NPT ensemble simulation
do icycl=1,ncycl	perform ncycl MC cycles
ran=ranf()*(npart+1)+1	
if (ran.le.npart) then	
call mcmove	perform particle displacement
else	
call mcvol	perform volume change
endif	
if (mod(icycl,nsamp).eq.0)	
+ call sample	sample averages
enddo	
end	

## Algorithm 2 (Attempt to Displace a Particle)

<pre>SUBROUTINE mcmove  o=int(ranf()*npart)+1 call ener(x(o), eno) xn=x(o)+(ranf()-0.5)*delx call ener(xn, enn) if (ranf().lt.exp(-beta +    *(enn-eno)) x(o)=xn return end</pre>	<p>attempts to displace a particle</p> <p>select a particle at random energy old configuration give particle random displacement energy new configuration acceptance rule (3.2.1) accepted: replace <math>x(o)</math> by <math>xn</math></p>
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*Comments to this algorithm:*

1. Subroutine `ener` calculates the energy of a particle at the given position.
2. Note that, if a configuration is rejected, the old configuration is retained.
3. The `ranf()` is a random number uniform in  $[0, 1]$ .

## Algorithm 11 (Attempt to Change the Volume)

SUBROUTINE mcvol	attempts to change the volume
call toterg(box, eno)	total energy old conf.
vo=box**3	determine old volume
lnvn=log(vo) + (ranf() - 0.5) * vmax	perform random walk in $\ln V$
vn=exp(lnvn)	
boxn=vn**(1/3)	new box length
do i=1, npart	
x(i)=x(i)*boxn/box	rescale center of mass
enddo	
call toterg(boxn, enn)	total energy new conf.
arg=-beta*((enn-eno)+p*(vn-vo)	
+ - (npart+1)*log(vn/vo)/beta)	appropriate weight function!
if (ranf().gt.exp(arg)) then	acceptance rule (5.2.3)
do i=1, npart	REJECTED
x(i)=x(i)*box/boxn	restore the old positions
enddo	
endif	
return	
end	

# Measured and Imposed Pressure

- Imposed pressure  $P$
- Measured pressure  $\langle P \rangle$  from virial

$$\langle P \rangle = - \left( \frac{\partial F}{\partial V} \right)_{N,T} = \frac{- \int dV V^N e^{-\beta P V} \left( \int ds^N e^{-\beta U(s^N)} \right) \left( \frac{\partial F}{\partial V} \right)_{N,T}}{\int dV V^N e^{-\beta P V} \int ds^N e^{-\beta U(s^N)}}$$

$$p(V) = \frac{\exp[-\beta(F(V) + PV)]}{Q_{NPT}}$$

$$Q_{NPT} = \beta P \int dV \exp[-\beta(F(V) + PV)]$$

$$\langle P \rangle = -\frac{\beta P}{Q(NPT)} \int dV \left( \frac{\partial F}{\partial V} \right)_{N,T} \exp[-\beta(F(V) + PV)]$$

$$\langle P \rangle = \frac{\beta P}{Q(NPT)} \int dV \frac{\exp[-\beta PV]}{\beta} \frac{\partial \exp[-\beta F(V)]}{\partial V}$$

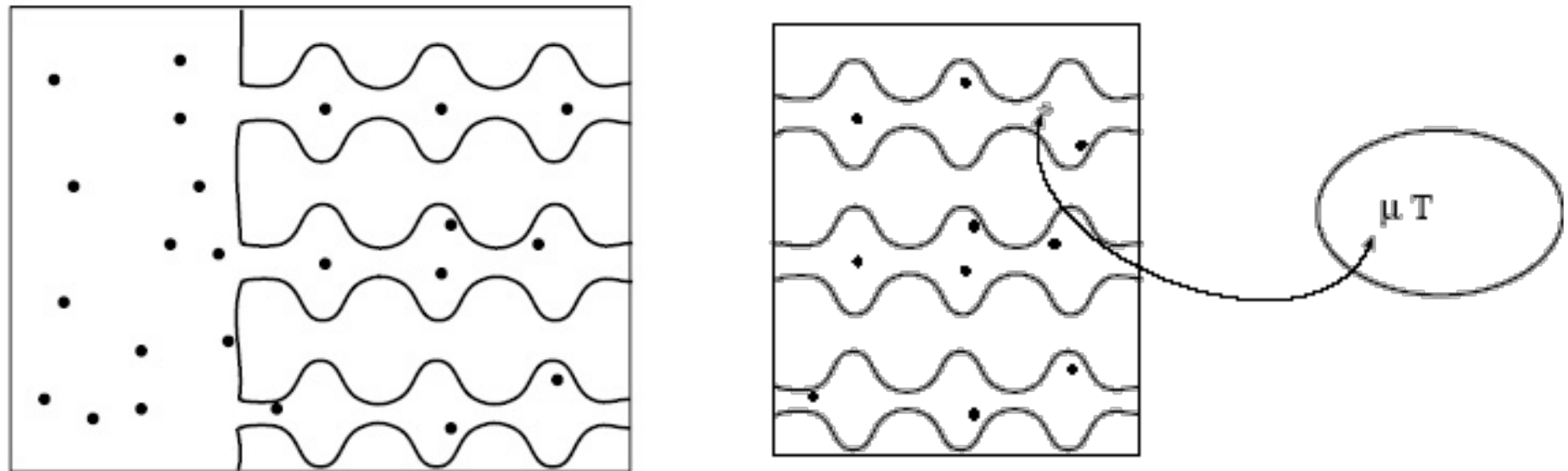
# Measured and Imposed Pressure

- Partial integration  $\int_a^b f dg = [fg]_a^b - \int_a^b g df$
- For  $V=0$  and  $V=\infty$   $\exp[-\beta(F(V)+PV)] = 0$
- Therefore,

$$\langle P \rangle = \frac{\beta P}{Q(NPT)} \int dV \frac{\exp[-\beta PV]}{\beta} \frac{\partial \exp[-\beta F(V)]}{\partial V}$$

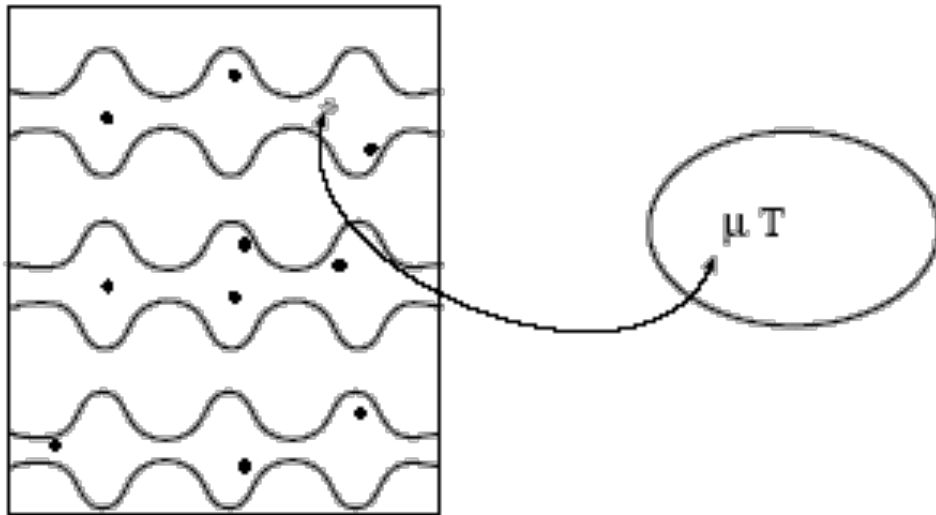
$$\langle P \rangle = \frac{\beta P}{Q(NPT)} = \int dV P \exp[-\beta(F(V)+PV)] = P$$

# Grand-canonical ensemble



What are the equilibrium conditions?

# Grand-canonical ensemble

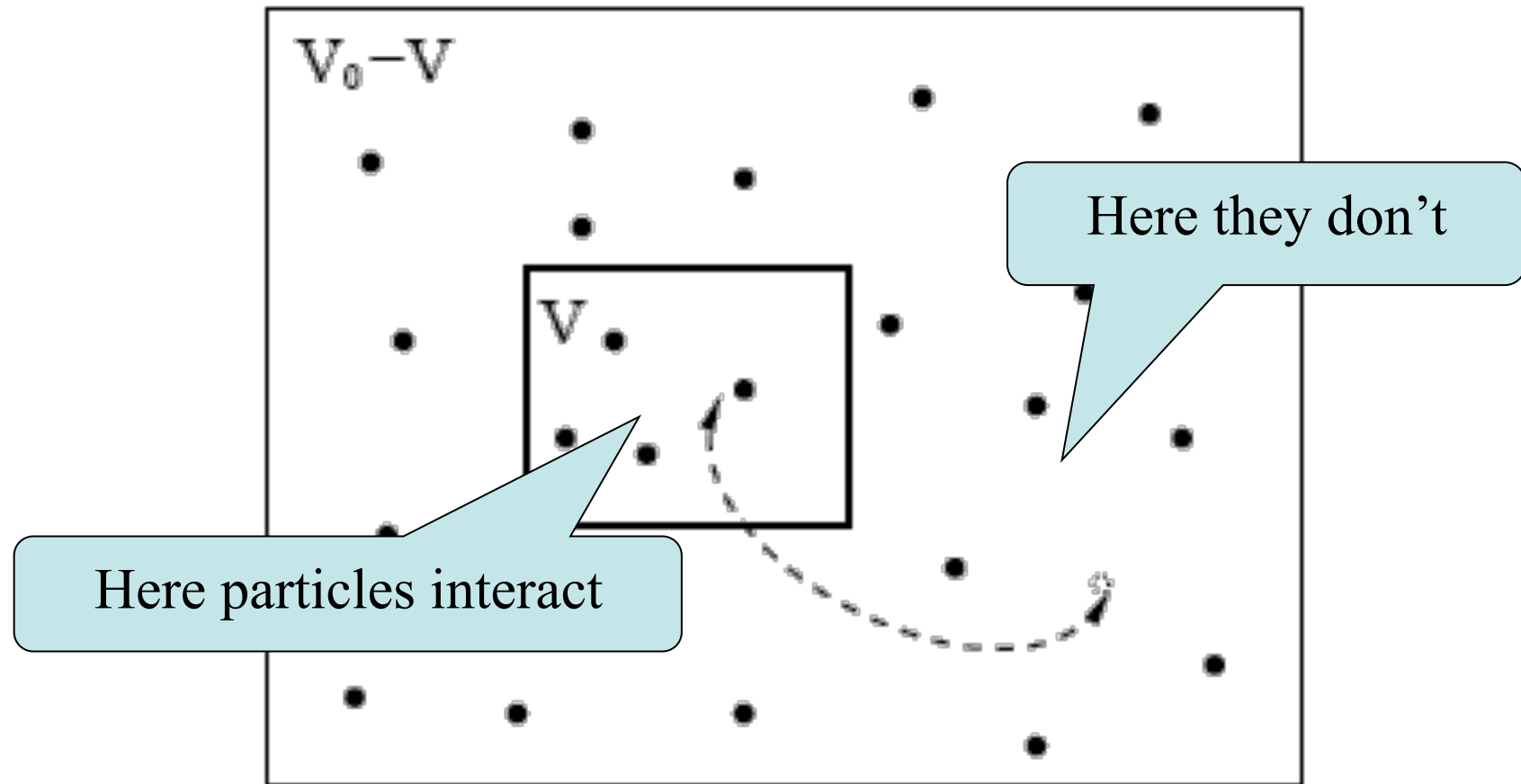


We impose:

- Temperature ( $T$ )
- Chemical potential ( $\mu$ )
- Volume ( $V$ )
  
- But **NOT** pressure

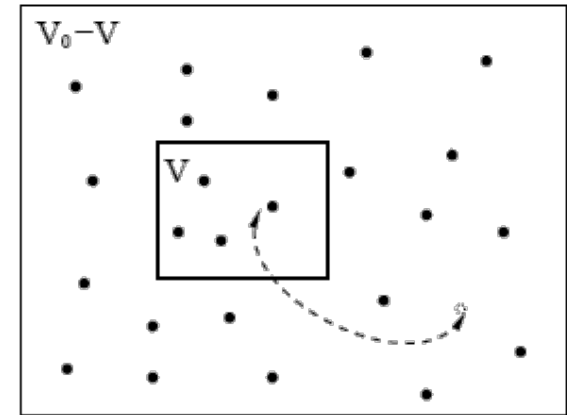


# System in reservoir



What is the statistical thermodynamics of this ensemble?

$$Q_{NVT} = \frac{V^N}{\Lambda^{3N} N!} \int ds^N \exp \left[ -\beta U(s^N; L) \right]$$



$$Q_{MV_0, NV, T} = \frac{(V_0 - V)^{M-N}}{\Lambda^{3(M-N)} (M-N)!} \int ds^{M-V} \exp \left[ -\beta U_0(s^{M-N}; L) \right] \frac{V^N}{\Lambda^{3N} N!} \\ \times \int ds^N \exp \left[ -\beta U(s^N; L) \right]$$

Source: <https://www.researchgate.net/publication/331111111>

$$\mathcal{Q}_{MV_0, NV, T} = \frac{(V_0 - V)^{M-N}}{\Lambda^{3(M-N)} (M-N)!} \frac{V^N}{\Lambda^{3N} N!} \int ds^N \exp[-\beta U(s^N; L)]$$

To get the Partition Function of this system, we have to sum over all possible number of particles

$$\mathcal{Q}_{MV_0, N, T} = \sum_{N=0}^{N=M} \frac{(V_0 - V)^{M-N}}{\Lambda^{3(M-N)} (M-N)!} \frac{V^N}{\Lambda^{3N} N!} \int ds^N \exp[-\beta U(s^N; L)]$$

Now let us take the following limits:

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} M \rightarrow \infty \\ V_0 \rightarrow \infty \end{array} \right\} \rho = \frac{M}{V} \rightarrow \text{constant}$$

As the particles are an ideal gas in the big reservoir we have:

$$\mu = k_B T \ln(\Lambda^3 \rho)$$

$$\mathcal{Q}_{\mu VT} = \sum_{N=0}^{N=\infty} \frac{\exp(\beta \mu N) V^N}{\Lambda^{3N} N!} \int ds^N \exp[-\beta U(s^N; L)] \quad 27$$

$$Q_{tot} = Q_R(M - N)Q_{sys}(N) = e^{-\beta F_R(M-N)} Q_{sys}(N)$$

Expand  $F_R$

$$F_R(M - N) = F_R(M) - \left( \frac{\partial F_R}{\partial M} \right) N + \dots$$

But:  $\left( \frac{\partial F_R}{\partial M} \right) = \mu$       And hence:

$$Q_{tot} = Q_R(M - N)Q_{sys}(N) = e^{-\beta F_R(M)} e^{\beta \mu N} Q_{sys}(N)$$

Sum over all N:

$$Q_{\mu VT} = \sum_{N=0}^{N=\infty} \frac{\exp(\beta \mu N) V^N}{\Lambda^{3N} N!} \int ds^N \exp \left[ -\beta U(s^N; L) \right] \quad 28$$

# $\mu VT$ Ensemble

Partition function:

$$Q_{\mu VT} = \sum_{N=0}^{N=\infty} \frac{\exp(\beta\mu N) V^N}{\Lambda^{3N} N!} \int ds^N \exp[-\beta U(s^N; L)]$$

Probability to find a particular configuration:

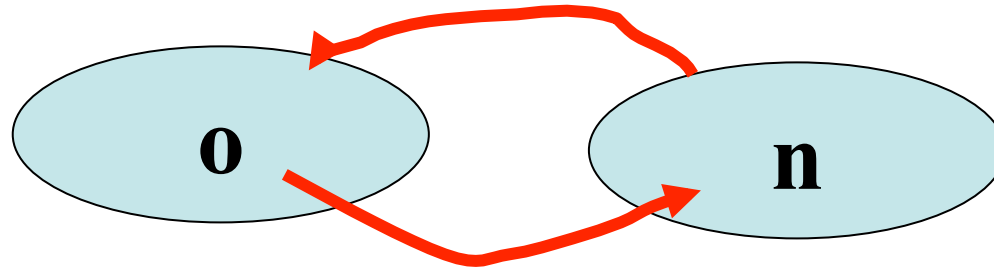
$$N_{\mu VT}(V, s^N) \propto \frac{\exp(\beta\mu N) V^N}{\Lambda^{3N} N!} \exp[-\beta U(s^N; L)]$$

Sample a particular configuration:

- Change of the number of particles
- Change of reduced coordinates

Acceptance rules ??

# Detailed balance



$$K(o \rightarrow n) = K(n \rightarrow o)$$

$$K(o \rightarrow n) = N(o) \times \alpha(o \rightarrow n) \times \text{acc}(o \rightarrow n)$$

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# $\mu VT$ -ensemble

$$N_{\mu VT} (V, \mathbf{s}^N) \propto \frac{\exp(\beta\mu N) V^N}{\Lambda^{3N} N!} \exp[-\beta U(\mathbf{s}^N; L)]$$

$$\frac{\text{acc}(o \rightarrow n)}{\text{acc}(n \rightarrow o)} = \frac{N(n)}{N(o)}$$

Suppose we change the position of a randomly selected particle

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\text{acc}(o \rightarrow n)}{\text{acc}(n \rightarrow o)} &= \frac{\cancel{\frac{\exp(\beta\mu N) V^N}{\Lambda^{3N} N!}} \exp[-\beta U(\mathbf{s}_n^N; L)]}{\cancel{\frac{\exp(\beta\mu N) V^N}{\Lambda^{3N} N!}} \exp[-\beta U(\mathbf{s}_o^N; L)]} \\ &= \exp \left\{ -\beta [U(n) - U(o)] \right\} \end{aligned}$$

# $\mu VT$ -ensemble

$$N_{\mu VT}(V, \mathbf{s}^N) \propto \frac{\exp(\beta\mu N) V^N}{\Lambda^{3N} N!} \exp[-\beta U(\mathbf{s}^N; L)]$$

$$\frac{\text{acc}(o \rightarrow n)}{\text{acc}(n \rightarrow o)} = \frac{N(n)}{N(o)}$$

Suppose we change the *number of particles* of the system

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\text{acc}(o \rightarrow n)}{\text{acc}(n \rightarrow o)} &= \frac{\frac{\exp(\beta\mu(N+1)) V^{N+1}}{\Lambda^{3N+3} (N+1)!} \exp[-\beta U(\mathbf{s}^{N+1}; L)]}{\frac{\exp(\beta\mu N) V^N}{\Lambda^{3N} N!} \exp[-\beta U(\mathbf{s}^N; L)]} \\ &= \frac{\exp(\beta\mu) V}{\Lambda^3 (N+1)} \exp[-\beta \Delta U] \end{aligned}$$



## Algorithm 12 (Basic Grand-Canonical Ensemble Simulation)

PROGRAM mc_gc	basic $\mu$ VT ensemble simulation
do icycl=1,ncycl	perform ncycl MC cycles
ran=int(ranf()*(npav+nexc))+1	
if (ran.le.npart) then	
call mcmove	displace a particle
else	
call mcexc	exchange a particle with the reservoir
endif	
if (mod(icycl,nsamp).eq.0)	
+ call sample	sample averages
enddo	
end	

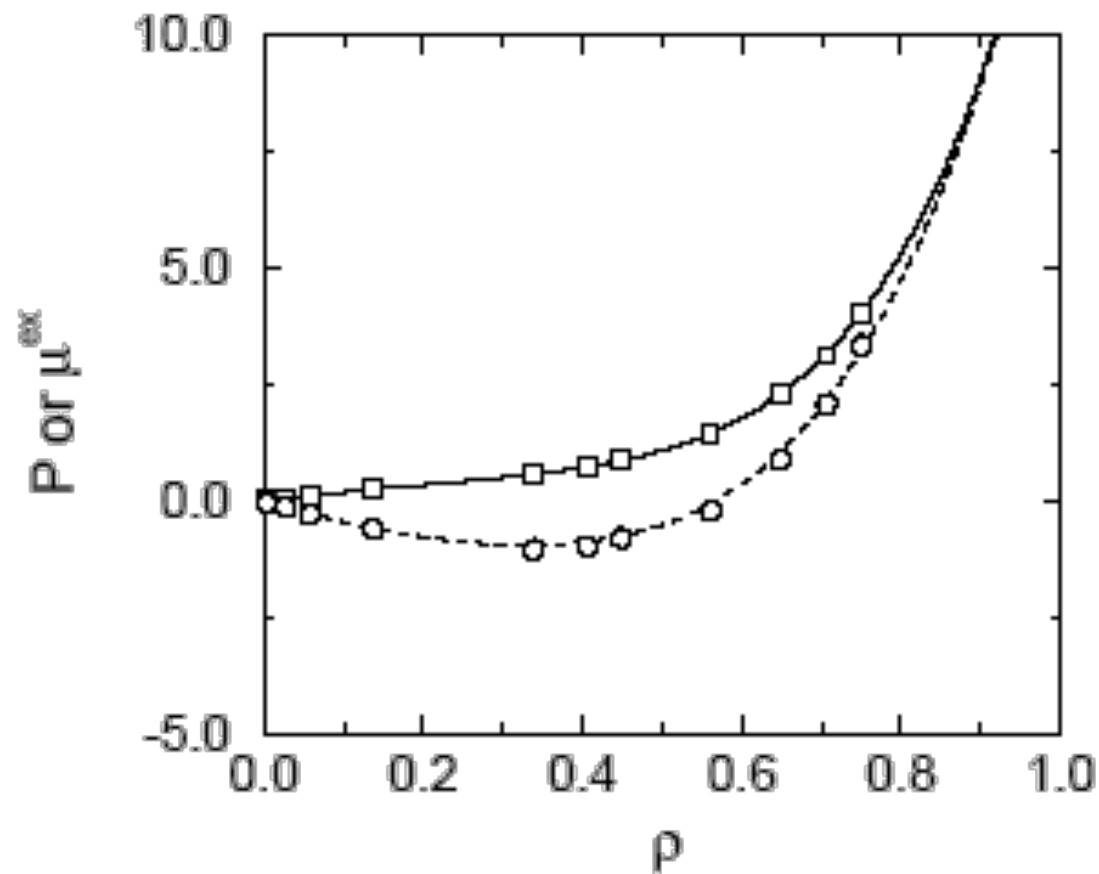
*Comments to this algorithm:*

1. This algorithm ensures that, after each MC step, detailed balance is obeyed. Per cycle we perform on average  $npav$  attempts<sup>6</sup> to displace particles and  $nexc$  attempts to exchange particles with the reservoir.
2. Subroutine `mcmove` attempts to displace a particle (Algorithm 2), subroutine `mcexc` attempts to exchange a particle with a reservoir (Algorithm 13), and subroutine `sample` samples quantities every  $nsamp$  cycle.

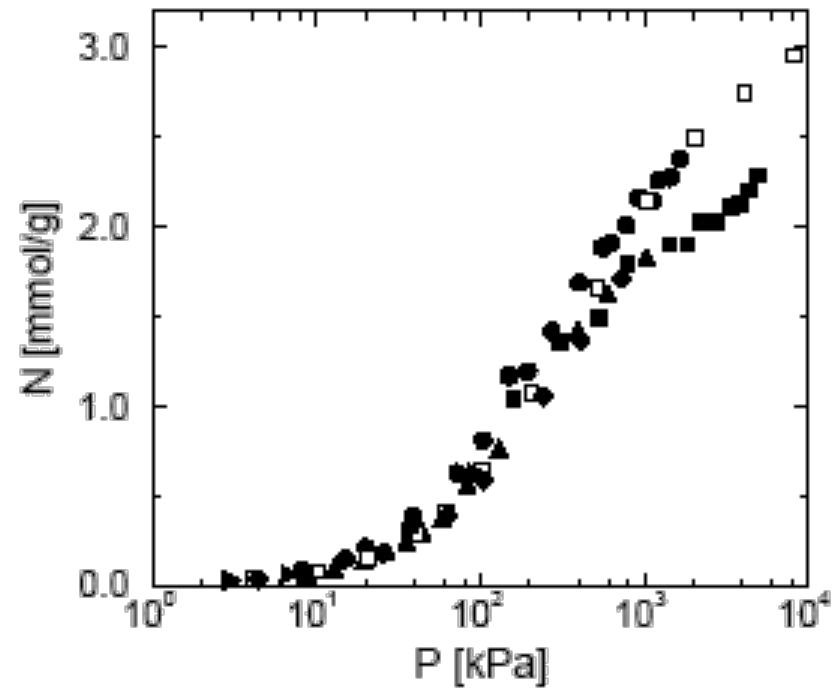
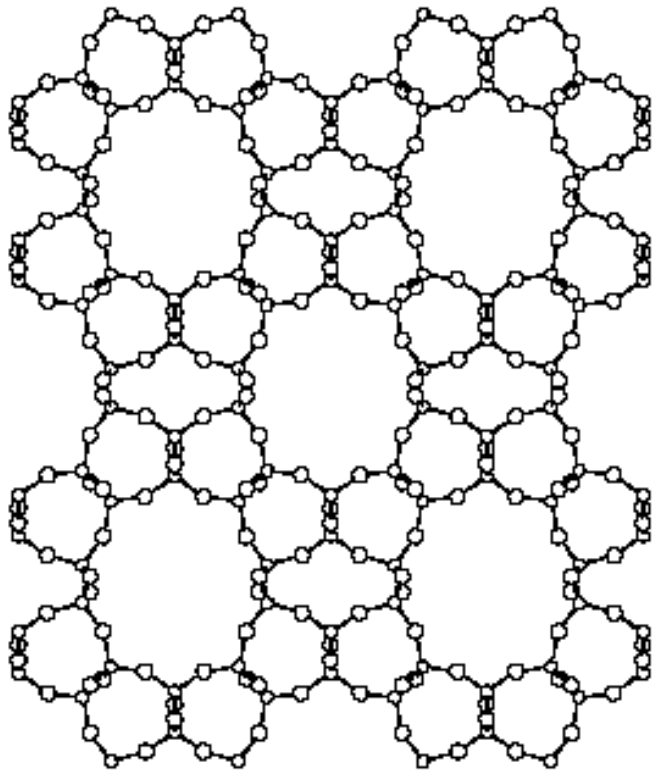
### Algorithm 13 (Attempt to Exchange a Particle with a Reservoir)

<pre>SUBROUTINE mcexc    if (ranf().lt.0.5) then     if (npart.eq.0) return     o=int(npart*ranf())+1     call ener(x(o),eno)     arg=npart*exp(beta*eno) +    /(zz*vol)     if (ranf().lt.arg) then       x(o)=x(npart)       npart=npart-1     endif   else     xn=ranf()*box     call ener(xn,enn)     arg=zz*vol*exp(-beta*enn) +    /(npart+1)     if (ranf().lt.arg) then       x(npart+1)=xn       npart=npart+1     endif   endif   return end</pre>	<p>attempt to exchange a particle with a reservoir</p> <p>decide to remove or add a particle</p> <p>test whether there is a particle</p> <p>select a particle to be removed</p> <p>energy particle o</p> <p>acceptance rule (5.6.9)</p> <p>accepted: remove particle o</p> <p>new particle at a random position</p> <p>energy new particle</p> <p>acceptance rule (5.6.8)</p> <p>accepted: add new particle</p>
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# Application: equation of state of Lennard-Jones



# Application: adsorption in zeolites



# Summary

Ensemble	Constant (Imposed)	Fluctuating (Measured)	Function
NVT	N,V,T	P	$\beta F = -\ln Q(N,V,T)$
NPT	N,P,T	V	$\beta G = -\ln Q(N,P,T)$
$\mu VT$	$\mu, V, T$	N	$\beta \Omega = -\ln Q(\mu, V, T) = -\beta P V$

Studying phase coexistence:

The Gibbs “Ensemble”

# NVT Ensemble

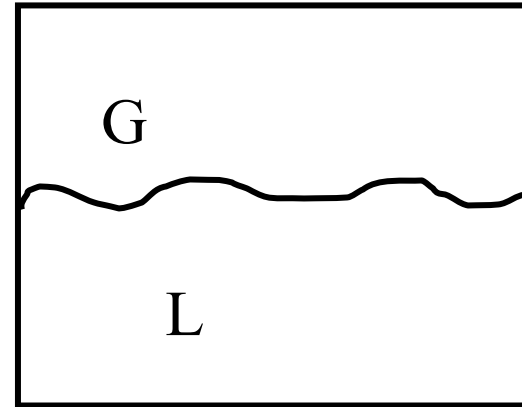
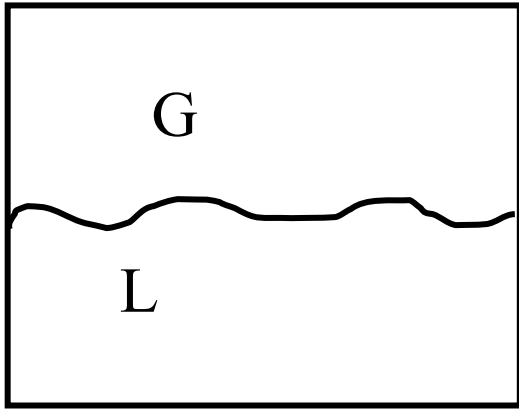


Fluid

The diagram illustrates the NVT ensemble with two identical rectangular boxes, each representing a fluid. The boxes are positioned side-by-side. Each box contains the word 'Fluid' in its center. The boxes are defined by black outlines and are set against a white background.

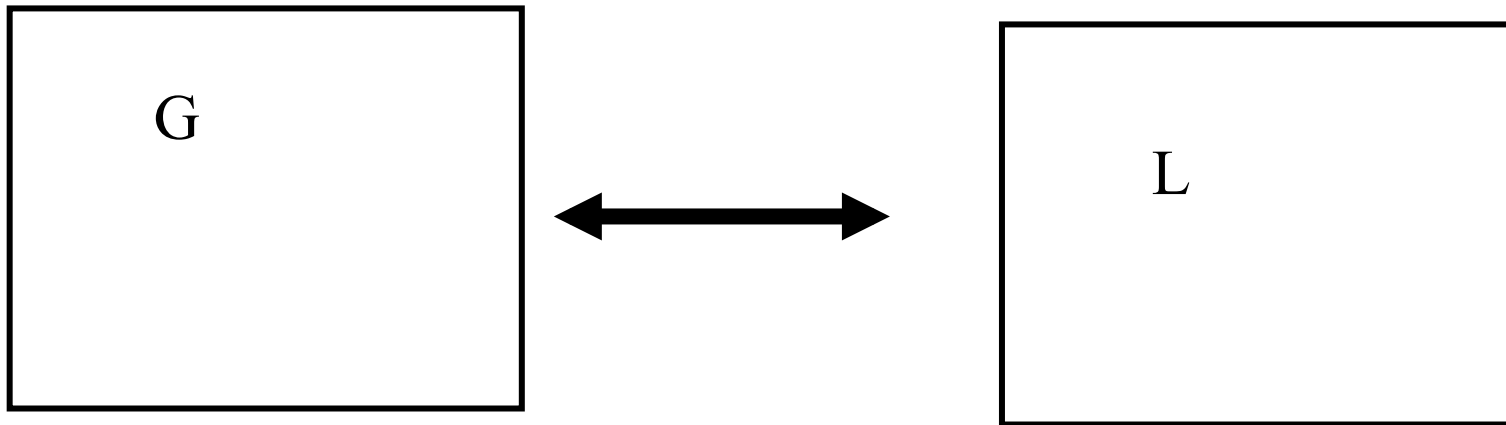
Fluid

# NVT Ensemble

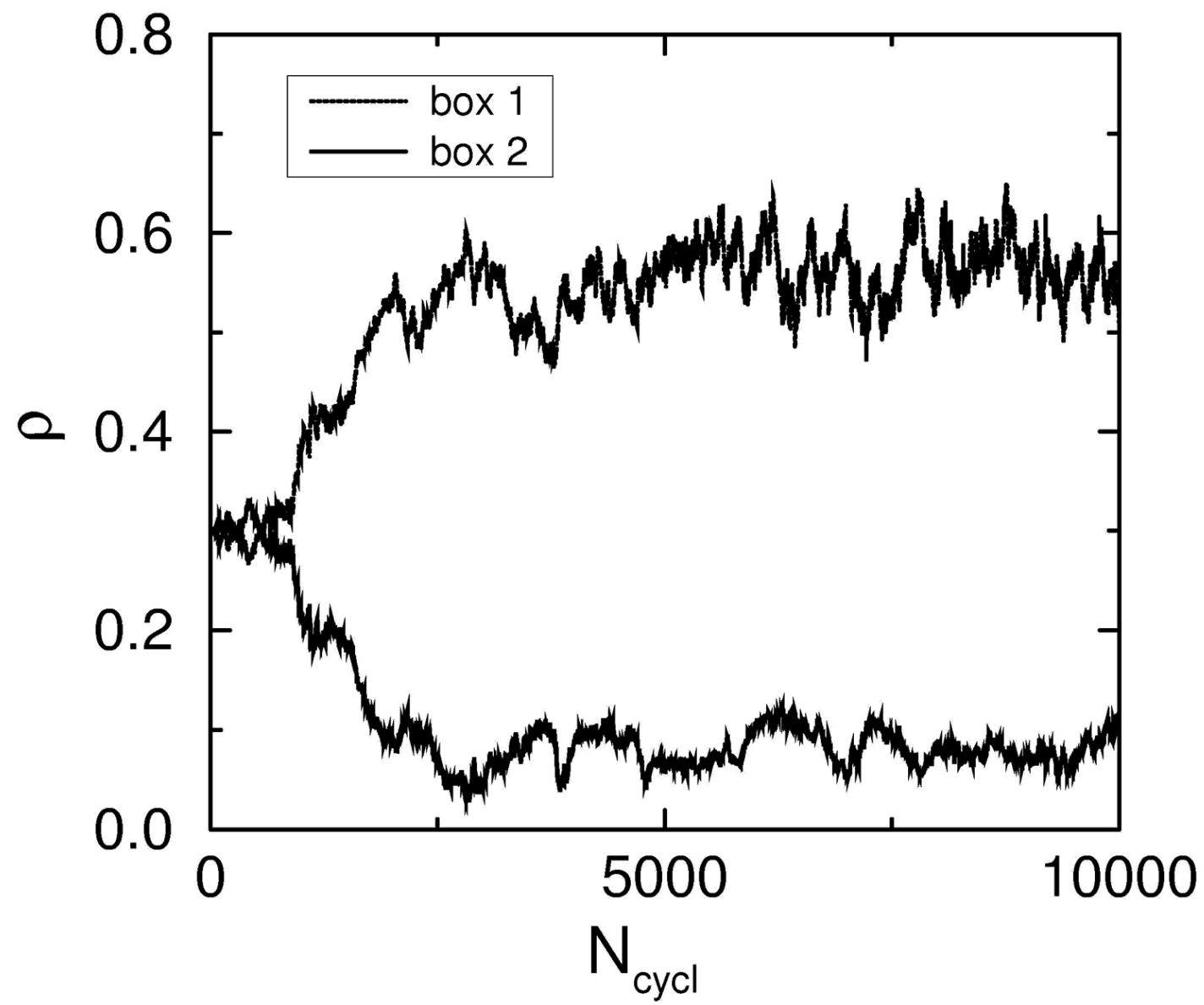


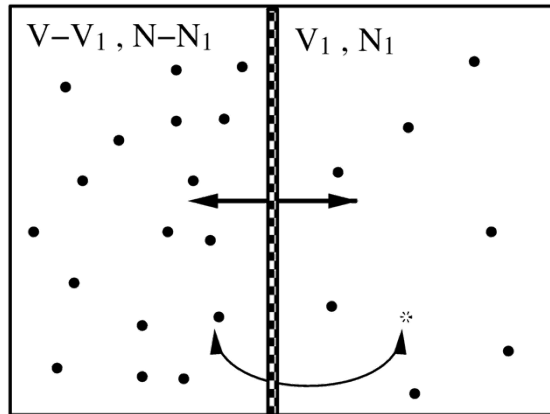


# Gibbs Ensemble



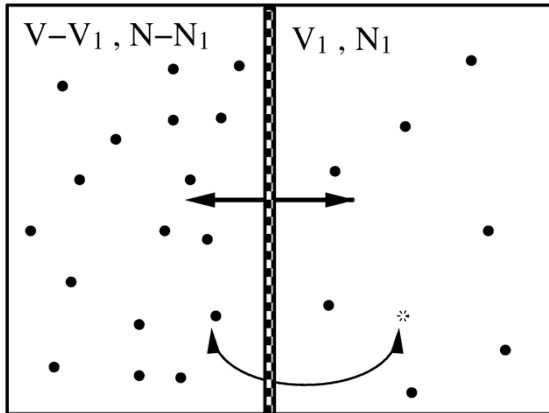
Equilibrium!





- Distribute  $n_1$  particles over two volumes
- Change the volume  $V_1$
- Displace the particles

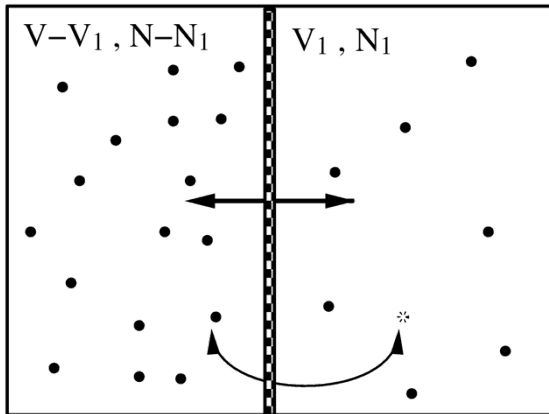
$$Q_G(N, V, T) \equiv \sum_{n_1=0}^N \frac{1}{V \Lambda^{3N} n_1! (N - n_1)!} \int_0^V dV_1 V_1^{n_1} (V - V_1)^{N - n_1} \\ \int d\mathbf{s}_1^{n_1} \exp[-\beta U(\mathbf{s}_1^{n_1})] \int d\mathbf{s}_2^{N - n_1} \exp[-\beta U(\mathbf{s}_2^{N - n_1})]$$



$$Q_G(N, V, T) \equiv \sum_{n_1=0}^N \frac{1}{V \Lambda^{3N} n_1! (N - n_1)!} \int_0^V dV_1 V_1^{n_1} (V - V_1)^{N - n_1} \\ \int d\mathbf{s}_1^{n_1} \exp[-\beta U(\mathbf{s}_1^{n_1})] \int d\mathbf{s}_2^{N - n_1} \exp[-\beta U(\mathbf{s}_2^{N - n_1})]$$

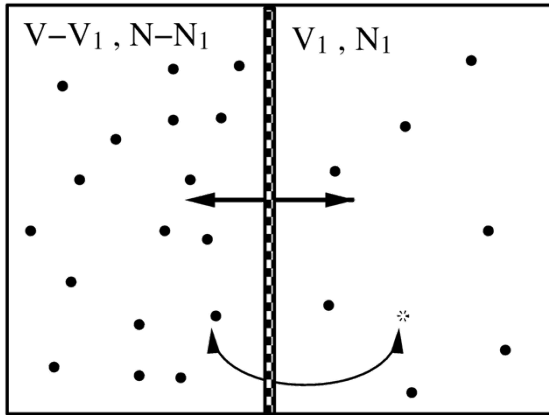
Distribute  $n_1$  particles over two volumes:

$$\binom{N}{n_1} = \frac{N!}{n_1! (N - n_1)!}$$



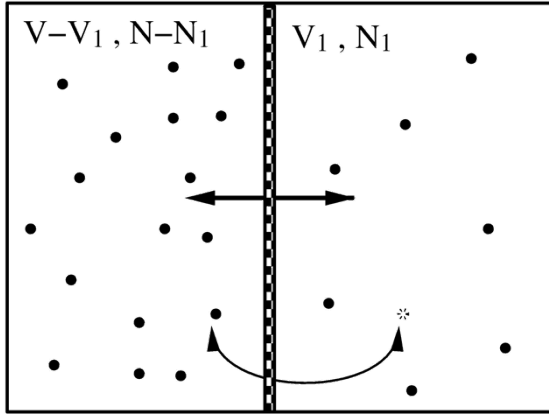
$$Q_G(N, V, T) \equiv \sum_{n_1=0}^N \frac{1}{V \Lambda^{3N} n_1! (N-n_1)!} \int_0^V dV_1 V_1^{n_1} (V - V_1)^{N-n_1} \\ \int d\mathbf{s}_1^{n_1} \exp[-\beta U(\mathbf{s}_1^{n_1})] \int d\mathbf{s}_2^{N-n_1} \exp[-\beta U(\mathbf{s}_2^{N-n_1})]$$

Integrate volume  $V_1$



$$Q_G(N, V, T) \equiv \sum_{n_1=0}^N \frac{1}{V \Lambda^{3N} n_1! (N - n_1)!} \int_0^V dV_1 V_1^{n_1} (V - V_1)^{N - n_1} \\ \int d\mathbf{s}_1^{n_1} \exp[-\beta U(\mathbf{s}_1^{n_1})] \int d\mathbf{s}_2^{N - n_1} \exp[-\beta U(\mathbf{s}_2^{N - n_1})]$$

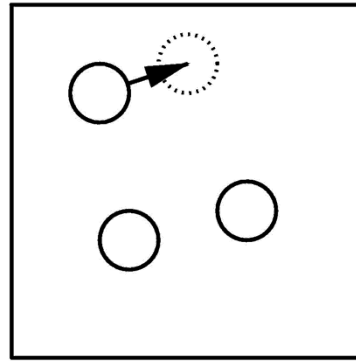
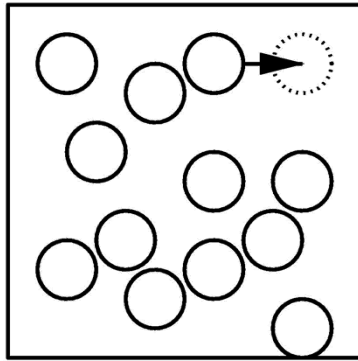
Displace the particles in box 1 and box2



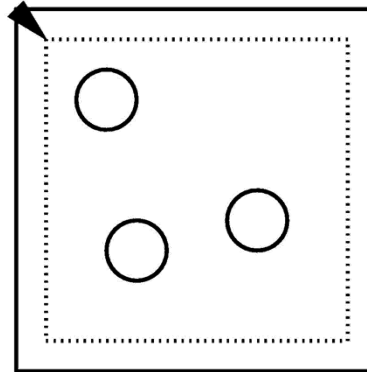
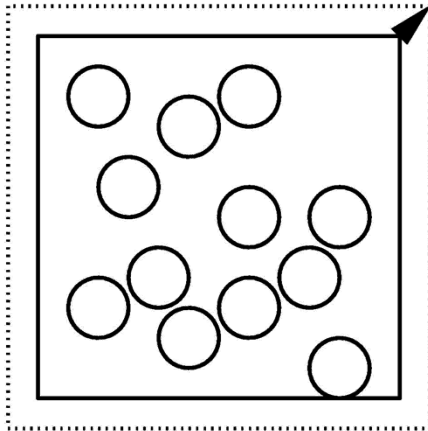
$$Q_G(N, V, T) \equiv \sum_{n_1=0}^N \frac{1}{V \Lambda^{3N} n_1! (N-n_1)!} \int_0^V dV_1 V_1^{n_1} (V - V_1)^{N-n_1} \\ \int d\mathbf{s}_1^{n_1} \exp[-\beta U(\mathbf{s}_1^{n_1})] \int d\mathbf{s}_2^{N-n_1} \exp[-\beta U(\mathbf{s}_2^{N-n_1})]$$

Probability distribution

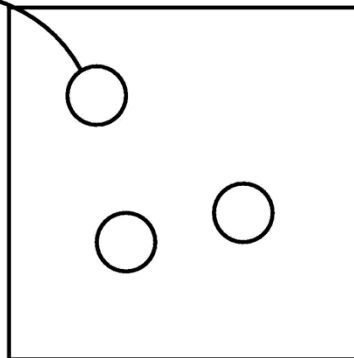
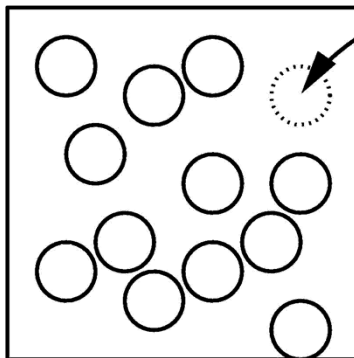
$$N(n_1, V_1, \mathbf{s}_1^{n_1}, \mathbf{s}_2^{N-n_1}) \propto \frac{V_1^{n_1} (V - V_1)^{N-n_1}}{n_1! (N - n_1)!} \exp \left\{ -\beta [U(\mathbf{s}_1^{n_1}) + U(\mathbf{s}_2^{N-n_1})] \right\}.$$



Particle displacement



Volume change



Particle exchange



# Acceptance rules

$$N(n_1, V_1, \mathbf{s}_1^{n_1}, \mathbf{s}_2^{N-n_1}) \propto \frac{V_1^{n_1} (V - V_1)^{N-n_1}}{n_1! (N - n_1)!} \exp \left\{ -\beta [U(\mathbf{s}_1^{n_1}) + U(\mathbf{s}_2^{N-n_1})] \right\}.$$

Detailed Balance:

$$K(o \rightarrow n) = K(n \rightarrow o)$$

$$N(o) \times \alpha(o \rightarrow n) \times \text{acc}(o \rightarrow n) = N(n) \times \alpha(n \rightarrow o) \times \text{acc}(n \rightarrow o)$$

$$\frac{\text{acc}(o \rightarrow n)}{\text{acc}(n \rightarrow o)} = \frac{N(n) \times \alpha(n \rightarrow o)}{N(o) \times \alpha(o \rightarrow n)}$$

$$\frac{\text{acc}(o \rightarrow n)}{\text{acc}(n \rightarrow o)} = \frac{N(n)}{N(o)}$$

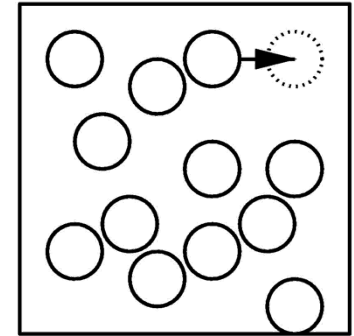
# Displacement of a particle in box

## 1

$$N(n_1, V_1, \mathbf{s}_1^{n_1}, \mathbf{s}_2^{N-n_1}) \propto \frac{V_1^{n_1} (V - V_1)^{N-n_1}}{n_1! (N - n_1)!} \exp \left\{ -\beta [U(\mathbf{s}_1^{n_1}) + U(\mathbf{s}_2^{N-n_1})] \right\}.$$

$$N(\textcolor{red}{n}) \propto \frac{V_1^{n_1} (V - V_1)^{N-n_1}}{n_1! (N - n_1)!} \exp \left\{ -\beta [U_1(n) + U(\textcolor{red}{\mathbf{s}}_2^{N-n_1})] \right\}$$

$$N(\textcolor{red}{o}) \propto \frac{V_1^{n_1} (V - V_1)^{N-n_1}}{n_1! (N - n_1)!} \exp \left\{ -\beta [U_1(o) + U(\textcolor{red}{\mathbf{s}}_2^{N-n_1})] \right\}$$



$$\frac{\text{acc}(o \rightarrow n)}{\text{acc}(n \rightarrow o)} = \frac{\cancel{V_1^{n_1} (V - V_1)^{N-n_1}} \exp \left\{ -\beta [U_1(n) + \cancel{U(\textcolor{red}{\mathbf{s}}_2^{N-n_1})}] \right\}}{\cancel{V_1^{n_1} (V - V_1)^{N-n_1}} \exp \left\{ -\beta [U_1(o) + \cancel{U(\textcolor{red}{\mathbf{s}}_2^{N-n_1})}] \right\}}$$

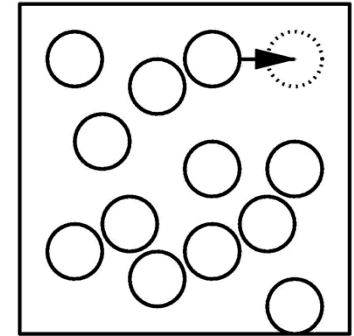
# Displacement of a particle in box

## 1

$$N(n_1, V_1, \mathbf{s}_1^{n_1}, \mathbf{s}_2^{N-n_1}) \propto \frac{V_1^{n_1} (V - V_1)^{N-n_1}}{n_1! (N - n_1)!} \exp \left\{ -\beta [U(\mathbf{s}_1^{n_1}) + U(\mathbf{s}_2^{N-n_1})] \right\}.$$

$$N(\textcolor{red}{n}) \propto \frac{V_1^{n_1} (V - V_1)^{N-n_1}}{n_1! (N - n_1)!} \exp \left\{ -\beta [U_1(n) + U(\textcolor{red}{\mathbf{s}}_2^{N-n_1})] \right\}$$

$$N(\textcolor{red}{o}) \propto \frac{V_1^{n_1} (V - V_1)^{N-n_1}}{n_1! (N - n_1)!} \exp \left\{ -\beta [U_1(o) + U(\textcolor{red}{\mathbf{s}}_2^{N-n_1})] \right\}$$



$$\frac{\text{acc}(\textcolor{red}{o} \rightarrow \textcolor{red}{n})}{\text{acc}(\textcolor{red}{n} \rightarrow \textcolor{red}{o})} = \frac{\exp \left\{ -\beta [U_1(n)] \right\}}{\exp \left\{ -\beta [U_1(o)] \right\}}$$

# Acceptance rules

$$N(n_1, V_1, \mathbf{s}_1^{n_1}, \mathbf{s}_2^{N-n_1}) \propto \frac{V_1^{n_1} (V - V_1)^{N-n_1}}{n_1! (N - n_1)!} \exp \left\{ -\beta [U(\mathbf{s}_1^{n_1}) + U(\mathbf{s}_2^{N-n_1})] \right\}.$$

Adding a particle to box 2

$$N(\textcolor{red}{n}) \propto \frac{V_1^{\textcolor{red}{n}_1-1} (V - V_1)^{N-(\textcolor{red}{n}_1-1)}}{(\textcolor{red}{n}_1-1)! (N - (\textcolor{red}{n}_1-1))!} \exp \left\{ -\beta [U_1(\textcolor{red}{n}) + U_2(\textcolor{red}{n})] \right\}$$

$$N(o) \propto \frac{V_1^{n_1} (V - V_1)^{N-n_1}}{n_1! (N - n_1)!} \exp \left\{ -\beta [U_1(o) + U_2(o)] \right\}$$

$$\frac{\text{acc}(o \rightarrow n)}{\text{acc}(n \rightarrow o)} = \frac{N(n)}{N(o)}$$

Moving a particle from box 1 to box 2

$$N(n) \propto \frac{V_1^{n_1-1} (V - V_1)^{N-(n_1-1)}}{(n_1-1)! (N - (n_1-1))!} \exp \left\{ -\beta [U_1(n) + U_2(n)] \right\}$$

$$N(o) \propto \frac{V_1^{n_1} (V - V_1)^{N-n_1}}{n_1! (N - n_1)!} \exp \left\{ -\beta [U_1(o) + U_2(o)] \right\}$$

$$\frac{\text{acc}(o \rightarrow n)}{\text{acc}(n \rightarrow o)} = \frac{\frac{V_1^{n_1-1} (V - V_1)^{N-(n_1-1)}}{(n_1-1)! (N - (n_1-1))!} \exp \left\{ -\beta [U_1(n) + U_2(n)] \right\}}{\frac{V_1^{n_1} (V - V_1)^{N-n_1}}{n_1! (N - n_1)!} \exp \left\{ -\beta [U_1(o) + U_2(o)] \right\}}$$

Moving a particle from box 1 to box 2

$$N(n) \propto \frac{V_1^{n_1-1} (V - V_1)^{N-(n_1-1)}}{(n_1-1)! (N - (n_1-1))!} \exp \{ -\beta [U_1(n) + U_2(n)] \}$$

$$N(o) \propto \frac{V_1^{n_1} (V - V_1)^{N-n_1}}{n_1! (N - n_1)!} \exp \{ -\beta [U_1(o) + U_2(o)] \}$$

$$\frac{\text{acc}(o \rightarrow n)}{\text{acc}(n \rightarrow o)} = \frac{\frac{V_1^{n_1-1} (V - V_1)^{N-(n_1-1)}}{\cancel{(n_1-1)!} (N - \cancel{(n_1-1)})!} \exp \{ -\beta [U_1(n) + U_2(n)] \}}{\frac{V_1^{n_1} (V - V_1)^{N-n_1}}{\cancel{n_1!} (N - \cancel{n_1})!} \exp \{ -\beta [U_1(o) + U_2(o)] \}}$$

Moving a particle from box 1 to box 2

$$N(n) \propto \frac{V_1^{n_1-1} (V - V_1)^{N-(n_1-1)}}{(n_1-1)! (N - (n_1-1))!} \exp \{ -\beta [U_1(n) + U_2(n)] \}$$

$$N(o) \propto \frac{V_1^{n_1} (V - V_1)^{N-n_1}}{n_1! (N - n_1)!} \exp \{ -\beta [U_1(o) + U_2(o)] \}$$

$$\frac{\text{acc}(o \rightarrow n)}{\text{acc}(n \rightarrow o)} = \frac{\frac{V_1^{n_1-1} (V - V_1)^{N-(n_1-1)}}{(n_1-1)! (N - (n_1-1))!} \exp \{ -\beta [U_1(n) + U_2(n)] \}}{\frac{V_1^{n_1} (V - V_1)^{N-n_1}}{n_1! (N - n_1)!} \exp \{ -\beta [U_1(o) + U_2(o)] \}}$$

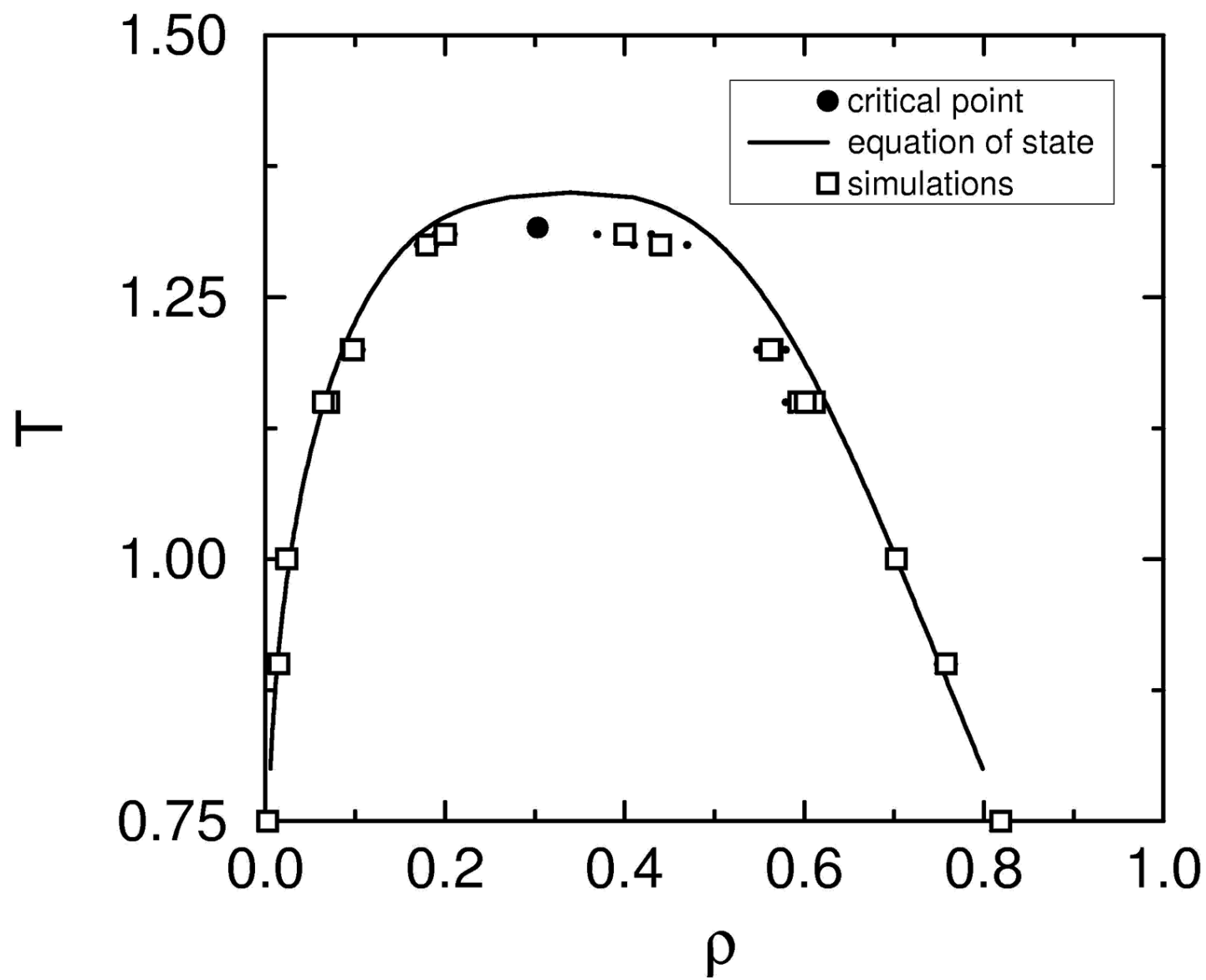
Moving a particle from box 1 to box 2

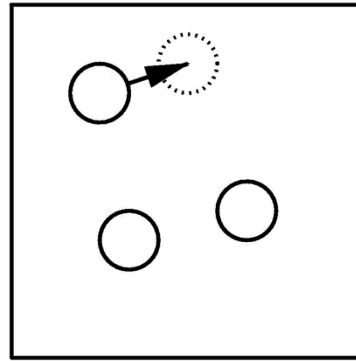
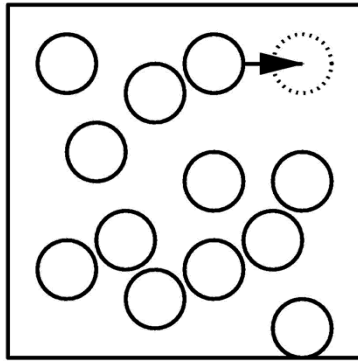
$$N(n) \propto \frac{V_1^{n_1-1} (V - V_1)^{N-(n_1-1)}}{(n_1-1)! (N - (n_1-1))!} \exp \{ -\beta [U_1(n) + U_2(n)] \}$$

$$N(o) \propto \frac{V_1^{n_1} (V - V_1)^{N-n_1}}{n_1! (N - n_1)!} \exp \{ -\beta [U_1(o) + U_2(o)] \}$$

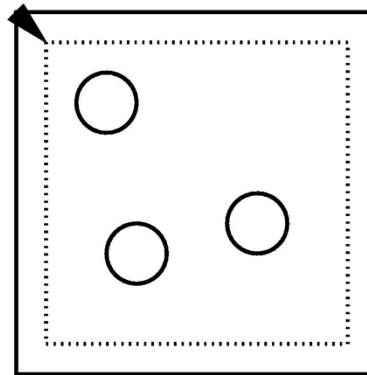
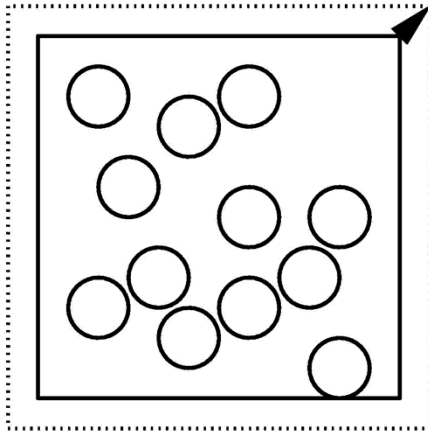
$$\frac{\text{acc}(o \rightarrow n)}{\text{acc}(n \rightarrow o)} = \frac{\frac{V_2}{n_2 + 1}}{\frac{V_1}{n_1}} \exp \{ -\beta [\Delta U_1 + \Delta U_2] \}$$



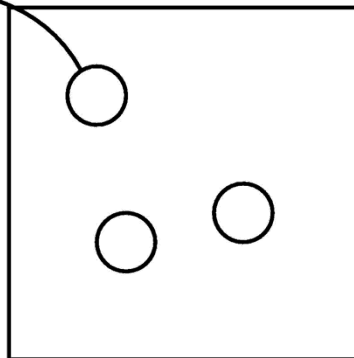
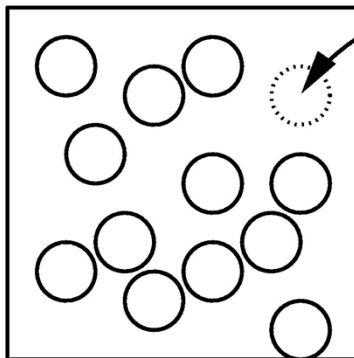




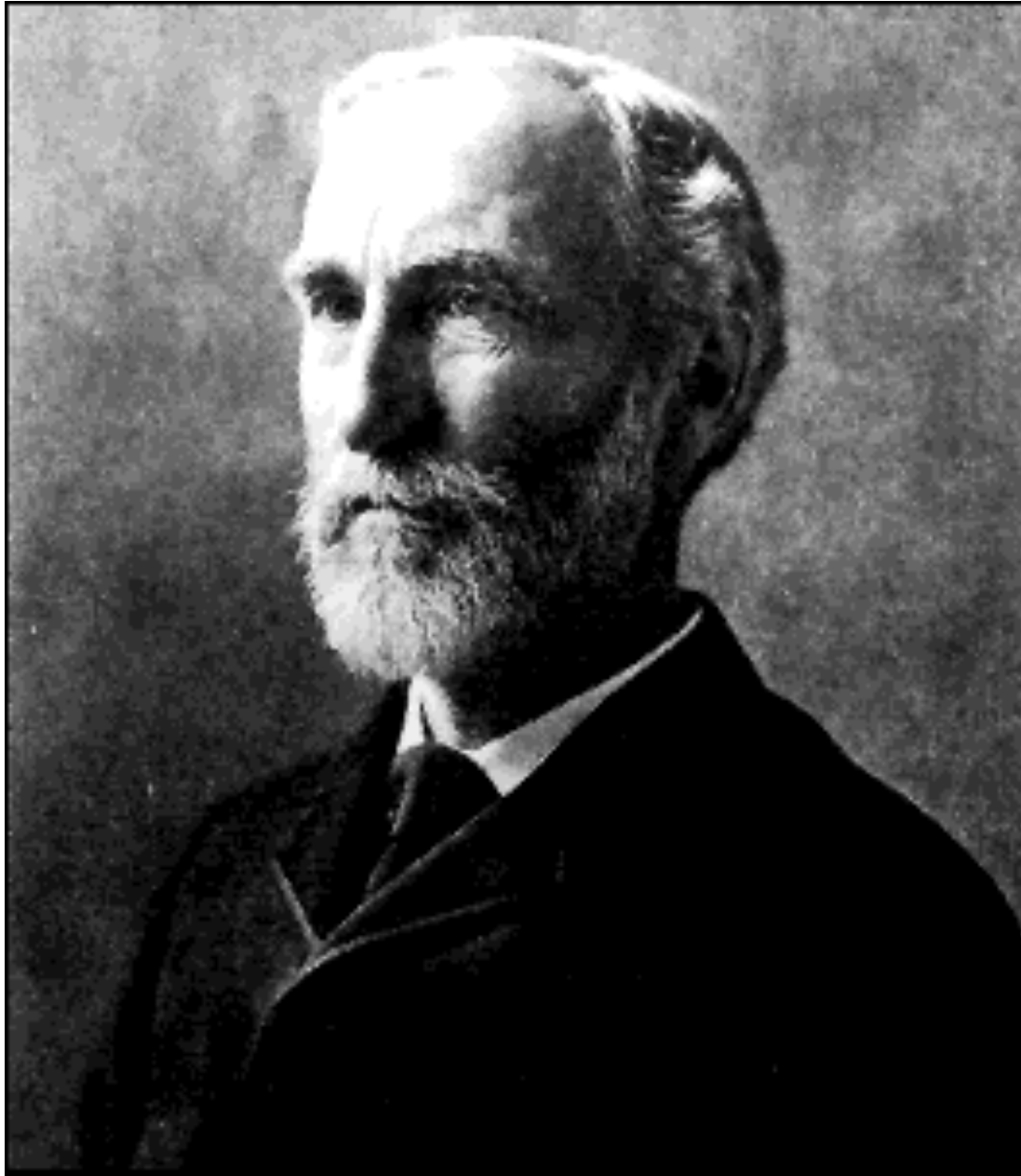
Particle displacements  
(to sample  
configuration space)



Volume exchanges  
(to impose equality  
of pressures)



Particle exchanges  
(to impose equality  
of chemical potentials)



$N!$  and the Gibbs Paradox

$$Q_{NVT} = \frac{1}{\Lambda^{3N} N!} \int d\mathbf{r}^N \exp\left[-\beta U(\mathbf{r}^N)\right].$$

QUESTION:

**Can we use this expression for systems of distinguishable particles – e.g. colloidal suspensions?**

## What do the textbooks say?

Thus, it seems that the  $1/N!$  term is absolutely necessary to resolve the paradox. This means that only a correct quantum mechanical treatment of the ideal gas gives rise to a consistent entropy.

could only later be identified with Planck's constant  $h$ . The indistinguishability of particles of the same kind, which had to be introduced in order to avoid the *Gibbs' paradox*,<sup>1</sup> got a firm logical basis only after the invention of quantum theory. The observed distribution of black-body radiation could

least one nucleon mass). Hence the distinction between identical and non-identical molecules is completely unambiguous in a quantum-mechanical description. The *Gibbs paradox* thus foreshadowed already in the last century conceptual difficulties that were resolved satisfactorily only by the advent of quantum mechanics.

It is not possible to understand classically why we must divide  $\sum(E)$  by  $N!$  to obtain the correct counting of states. The reason is inherently quantum mechanical. Quantum mechanically, atoms are inherently indistinguishable in the following sense: A state of the gas is described by an  $N$ -particle wave function, which is either symmetric or antisymmetric with respect to the interchange of any

## LANDAU & LIFSHITZ footnote

† This becomes particularly evident if we consider the classical partition function (integral over states) as the limit of the quantum partition function. In the latter the summation is over all the different quantum states, and there is no problem (remembering that, because of the principle of symmetry of wave functions in quantum mechanics, the quantum state is unaffected by interchanges of identical particles).

From the purely classical viewpoint the need for this interpretation of the statistical integration arises because otherwise the statistical weight would no longer be multiplicative, and so the entropy and the other thermodynamic quantities would no longer be additive.

## Van Kampen

In *statistical mechanics* this dependence is obtained by inserting a factor  $1/N!$  in the partition function. Quantum mechanically this factor enters automatically and in many textbooks that is the way in which it is justified. My point is that this is irrelevant: *even in classical statistical mechanics it can be derived by logic* – rather than by the somewhat mystical arguments of Gibbs<sup>2</sup> and Planck.<sup>3,4</sup> Specifically I take exception to such statements as: "It is not possible to understand classically why we must divide by  $N!$  to obtain the correct counting of states",<sup>5</sup> and: "Classical statistics thus leads to a contradiction with experience even in the range in which quantum effects in the proper sense can be completely neglected".<sup>6</sup>

## ENTER JAYNES:

“Usually, Gibbs’ prose style conveys his meaning in a sufficiently clear way...”

“... using no more than twice as many words as Poincaré or Einstein would have used to say the same thing”

“But occasionally he delivers a sentence with a ponderous unintelligibility that seems to challenge us to make sense out of it...”



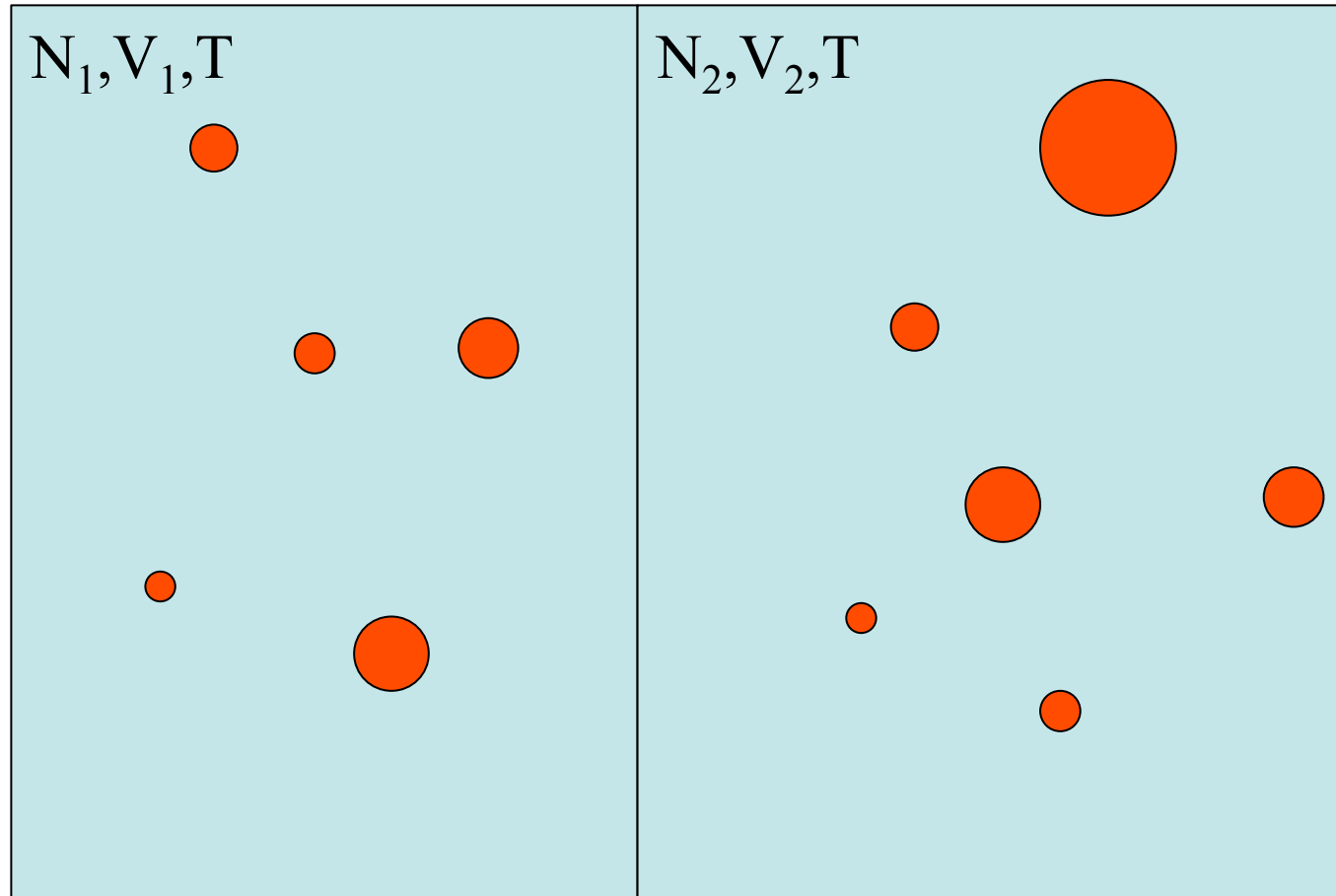
## **GIBBS's SENTENCE:**

“Again, when such gases have been mixed, there is no more impossibility of the separation of the two kinds of molecules in virtue of their ordinary motion in the gaseous mass without any especial external influence, than there is of the separation of a homogeneous gas into the same two parts into which it has once been divided, after these have these have once been mixed”

**Elsewhere, Gibbs says:**

As long as the **number of particles** is kept **fixed**, inclusion of the factor  $N!$  is **optional**.

However, when comparing systems with **different number of particles**, **you MUST include  $N!$**  to obtain an extensive entropy.



Two systems of 'identical' dilute colloidal solutions in equilibrium (low-fat milk).

Treat as gas of  $N$  labeled *but otherwise identical*

$\ln Z$  is not  
extensive

$$Z_{dist}(N) = V^N$$

Now: two such systems with  $N_1$  and  $N_2$  particles. In equilibrium, we can distribute the particles over the two systems in any way we choose (with fixed  $N_1$  and  $N_2$ ).

$$Z_{combined}(N_1, V_1, N_2, V_2) = V_1^{N_1} V_2^{N_2} \times \frac{(N_1 + N_2)!}{N_1! N_2!}$$

NOTE:

1. all particles are different (they just have identical properties – e.g. monodisperse colloidal spheres)
2.  $Z_{combined}$  is **not** extensive. Not even in quantum mechanics.

When the two systems are in equilibrium, the partition function is maximal with respect to variations in  $N_1$  ( $dN_1 = -dN_2$ ).

$$\left( \frac{\partial \ln Z_c}{\partial N_1} \right)_N = \frac{\partial \ln Z_1 / N_1!}{\partial N_1} - \frac{\partial \ln Z_2 / N_2!}{\partial N_2} = 0$$

Therefore, as soon as we are computing the **chemical potential**, we MUST include the factor  $N!$ , **also for labeled particles.**

Conveniently, the partition function of the combined system then factorizes

$$\frac{Z_c(N_1, V_1, N_2, V_2)}{(N_1 + N_2)!} = \frac{Z_1}{N_1!} \frac{Z_2}{N_2!}$$

and hence the free energy is extensive.

$$\ln \left( \frac{Z_c(N_1, V_1, N_2, V_2)}{(N_1 + N_2)!} \right) = \ln \left( \frac{Z_1}{N_1!} \right) + \ln \left( \frac{Z_2}{N_2!} \right)$$

“Quantum” indistinguishability of identical particles is true, but usually irrelevant (as any colloid scientist knows).

Reference:

**Why colloidal systems can be described by statistical mechanics: some not very original comments on the Gibbs paradox**

D. Frenkel, Mol. Phys. **112**, 2325–2329 (2014)